IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

n re Application of:)
	: Examiner: I. Sherali
MASAMI KATO)
	: Group Art Unit: 2624
Application No.: 10/714,637)
	:
Filed: November 18, 2003)
	:
For: IMAGE PROCESSING)
APPARATUS AND METHOD	: July 11, 2008

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, a Request for Continued

Examination (RCE) having been filed concurrently herewith, and in response to the Office

Action dated April 14, 2008, please amend the above-identified application as follows: